Remarkable Career of a Venerable Indiana Preacher.

He Has Officiated at Over Twelve Hundred Weddings-Now Eighty-Three Years Old and a Resident of Kokomo, Ind.

Rev. Hayden Rayburn and wife celebrated their sixty-first wedding annirereary in Kokomo, Ind., recently. Mr. Rayburn is not only the oldest minisfor in point of service in Indiana, but to also has the distinction of holding he championship of Hoosierdom in the number of marriage ceremonies solemnized. He was born in Kentucky in 1819 and come to Indiana in 1833. The same year he was married to Miss Matilda Johnson, who is still living. He entered the ministry in 1833 and for tixty years has occupied the pulpit in the Methodist Episcopal church, being ilso one of the pioneers of the state. "Father" Rayburn during this time has intermixed 1,202 marriages, passing the 1,200 mark last week. In the early days when the country was new, and the Minmi reserve was inhabited principaly by Indians, "Father" Rayburn was frequently called twenty, thirty and cometimes fifty miles from home to speak the words he has so often repeated since. In those pioneer times railroads were not known and public highways had not been established, naking travel anything but pleasant, The only mode of getting around then was on horseback, the rider being combelled to pick his way through the underbrush of the unbroken forest. At this period rattlesnakes and other venomous reptiles were more plentiful than preachers, and "Father" Rayburn endured many hardships in accommodating the young frontiersmen desiring his services. He cheerfully responded to every call, and, though the compensation was small es nothing at all, he would mount his horse and make the journey.



"FATHER" BAYBURN.

He had the reputation of being the most accommodating preacher in northern Indiana, and well be carned it, Sometimes he took his pay in coon ficins, beans, or whatever else the proom happened to possess in lieu of money, a source article in those times. Later, as the country developed, the pioneer minister abandoned horseback riding and made the trips in a carriage. This was kept up until five years ago, when he declined to respond to calls, pwing to old age. He consented, however, to marry all couples who came to his residence, and since that date more than two hundred brides and grooms, have made the pilgrimage to the par-

"I don't know why it is," said the old gantleman, "that the people still want me to marry them, unless it is because I married their fathers and mothers and grandfathers and grandmothers before them. I have had pretty good luck, though. Out of the twelve hundred marriages I know of but three divorces, though of course several have moved away and some I never saw after the ceremony. I gengrally give the youngsters a little lecture after the ceremony and that may have done some good."

"Father" Rayburn, now in his eighty-third year, is still hale and hearty. He has great-grandchildren grown.

### Exporting Toads to Fugiand.

The boys in and around Trimble, Tenn., have struck a bonanza. Mr. Frenk Eaton, un English gentleman, is buying up toads, which he is shipping to London, from which place they are sent all over Great Britain and sold to the market gardeners, who place them in their gardens to destroy insects. Mr. Eaton pays the boys 25 cents a dozen. He receives 82 per dozen for LADIES, ATTENTION them. They are shipped in little boxes, in which there are several floors. There are holes in the boxes through which the little fellows can get air, though Mr. Eaton says this is not necessary, as. they could live without air, but he does this through humans motives. Nothing is placed in the boxes for them to eat, but they do not suffer on this account, as they could go for months without

Origin of a Popular Drink.

The drink known as the cocktail was invented and named by Elizabeth Flangan, the wife of an Irish soldier who died during the revolution. She then became a sutler and followed the troop of Virginian horse which in 1779 wintered at Four Corners, between White Plains and Tarrytown, Westthester county, N. Y. Betsy Flanagan tet up a hotel, which the American and French officers frequented. They would come in after a night at the pard table for a "bracer," and Mistress Planegan would provide them with a frink that made them feel as "fresh as tock's tail." In time the compound reseived the name by which it is now

The largest library in the world will be the new national library at Washington. Though it now contains only 700,000 bound volumes and 200,000 pamphlets is will hold when the library building is finished 4,000,000 volumes and the space devoted to books, it is estimated, will be ample for the growth of the library for 150

Quickly Found. Mother-See if you can't find me two or three tacks. Boy-Yes'm.

"But, stop; where are you going?" "Going to pick up a few tacks." "But you are taking your bieyela." "Yes'm: it's a pneumatic."

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

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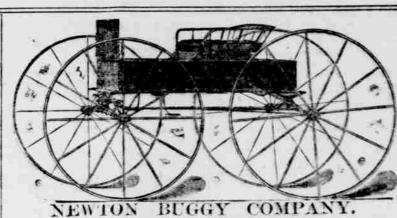
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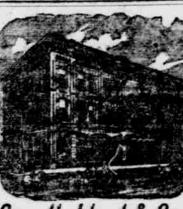
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